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LOCAL JOCKEYS, TRAINERS MAKE PLANS FOR WINTER RACING

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Friday, Nov. 26, 2021) – With the Fall Meet set to close Sunday at Churchill Downs, the jockey and trainer colonies are ready to make their winter journey to tracks across the country until racing returns in April.

There will be several new additions to the Turfway Park jockey colony including journeyman riders **Joe Rocco Jr.** and **Joe Talamo**.

“I’m excited to stay home this winter,” said Talamo, who shifted his tack from California to Kentucky in 2020. “I’ve been trying out different winter gloves and scarves to get ready for the winter in Kentucky. With the purse money that keeps going up at Turfway, I think it was a good decision to stay home.”

Rocco, who’s been a fixture on the Kentucky circuit since 2012, typically spent his winter at Oaklawn but will stay “home” for the Turfway meet.

“As your kids start to get older, it gets harder leaving each winter,” Rocco said. “I think it’ll be a good change staying at Turfway.”

Rocco will be represented at Turfway by veteran agent **Steve Bass**.

Other local riders that are scheduled to be in the Turfway jocks room are **Rafael Bejarano** and **Chris Landeros**.

Trainers **Brad Cox**, **Tommy Drury Jr.**, **Mike Maker**, **Michael McCarthy**, **Billy Morey** and **Mike Tomlinson** are slated to have divisions at the Florence, Ky. oval.

“We’ll mainly be based at Fair Grounds and Oaklawn this winter but we’ll have a few horses that we keep in Kentucky to run at Turfway,” Cox said.

Churchill Downs leading rider **Tyler Gaffalione**, who is poised to win his sixth-consecutive meet title beneath the Twin Spires, will ride at Gulfstream Park this winter. The Florida-native finished third in the rider standings at Gulfstream last winter with 95 wins.

Gaffalione is scheduled to be joined in the Gulfstream jockeys room by Churchill Downs regulars **Corey Lanerie**, **Julien Leparoux** and, a new addition for this year, **Sophie Doyle**.

Fair Grounds opened their meet Thursday and many riders left Churchill Downs early to begin their New Orleans-stay such as **Declan Carroll**, **James Graham**, **Reylu Gutierrez**, **Colby Hernandez** and **Mitchell Murrill**. Jockeys **Adam Beschizza** and **Brian Hernandez Jr.** are scheduled to join the colony following Churchill Downs’ closing day Sunday.

At Oaklawn, jockeys **Florent Geroux** and **Joel Rosario** are poised to join the riding colony fulltime for their meet that begins Dec. 3. Cox has already shipped several horses to Arkansas for the winter stand where his trusty assistant **Jorje Abrego** will oversee the proceedings.

Racing at Churchill Downs will run through Sunday and reopen for Kentucky Derby Week beginning Saturday, April 30.

JAPAN ROAD TO KENTUCKY DERBY BEGINS SATURDAY WITH CATTLEYA AT TOKYO – The Japan Road to the Kentucky Derby will begin early Saturday morning with the \$271,844 (USD) Cattleya Stakes at Tokyo Racecourse.

Kazumi Yoshida’s Consigliere (JPN) was the early 2-1 favorite in the Cattleya. Trained by **Yukio Inagaki**, Consigliere broke his maiden at first asking on Aug. 22 at Niigata. The son of Drefong is scheduled to be ridden by **Christophe Lemaire**.

Consigliere is slated to face 14 rivals including **Mataichiro Yamamoto’s World Connector**, the current 4-1 second choice in the wagering. The son of Connect broke his maiden on Oct. 31 over the turf at Tokyo Racecourse. The **Kazuo Fujisawa** trainee will be ridden by **Ryan Moore**.

The one-mile Cattleya Stakes is carded as Race 9 at Tokyo with a post time of 12:15 a.m. ET. The Top 4 finishers will be awarded points on a 10-4-2-1 scale.

For more information about the Japan Road to the Kentucky Derby, visit www.KentuckyDerby.com/horses/prep-races.

ASMUSSEN SADDLES FIVE WINNERS ON THANKSGIVING AT CHURCHILL DOWNS – Hall of Fame trainer **Steve Asmussen** found another way into the record books.

Asmussen, the 56-year-old who collected win No. 9,446th on Aug. 7 at Saratoga to become North America’s all-time win-leader among trainers, saddled what is believed to be a record five winners on a single card at Churchill Downs on Thanksgiving Day.

Records prior to 1991 are incomplete and no trainer had ever won more than four races in a day at the Louisville track since then. There have been eight four-win days since 1991 including five by Asmussen: Asmussen (July 4, 2004), **Todd Pletcher** (May 5, 2006), Asmussen (June 16, 2007), Asmussen (July 7, 2007), **Kenny McPeck** (Oct. 26, 2008), **Mike Maker** (June 2, 2013), Asmussen (May 4, 2019) and Asmussen (June 27, 2020).

On Thursday, Asmussen won with **Generator** (\$5.60), **Front Street** (\$2.80), **Regal Retort** (\$6.60), **Treaty of Paris** (\$21) and **All in Sync** (\$5.80). He had a chance to add to his record in Race 10 but **Dr. Jack** finished sixth as the 2-1 favorite.

Asmussen, who is atop the Fall Meet trainer standings with 18 wins, is Churchill Downs' all-time win-leader with 819 victories and he is poised to collect his record-extending 25th Churchill Downs training title when the 21-day meet concludes Sunday.

'ALL OTHER 3-YEAR-OLD COLTS AND GELDINGS' OPENS AT 1-5 IN POOL 1 OF FUTURE WAGER – As of 8 a.m. Friday, the popular betting option of **"All Other Colts and Geldings from the 2019 Foal Crop"** opened as the 1-5 favorite for the four-day stand of Pool 1 of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager.

Individually, the highly-regarded **Jack Christopher**, who is currently on the sidelines due to a stress fracture in his left shin, is the 9-1 favorite. The **Chad Brown** trainee is scheduled to resume training in the coming months, according to his connections.

Pool 1 assumes that horses under the care of trainers suspended from competing in the 2022 Kentucky Derby will not be under consideration. To that end, prospects **Corniche**, **Messier**, **Pinehurst** and **Rockefeller** are not among the 22 individual betting interests and are included within the pari-mutuel field.

In the Sire Future Wager, the "All Other Sires" betting option was the 4-1 slight favorite over offspring sired by **Gun Runner**, who was 6-1.

The complete list of horses for Pool 1 of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager and Sire Future Wager are available, with real-time odds, on www.KentuckyDerby.com/FutureWager.

Wagering is available online at www.TwinSpires.com, the official ADW of Churchill Downs Incorporated.

Free past performances for Pool 1 of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager and Kentucky Derby Sire Future Wager have been provided by Brisnet:

- KDFW Pool 1: <http://www.brisnet.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Derby22Future1.pdf>
- KDFW Sire: <http://www.brisnet.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Derby22Sire.pdf>

TV SCHEDULE – Racing from Churchill Downs will air each race day on the Churchill Downs LIVE app. The app is available free of charge on streaming services such as Amazon, Apple TV and Roku. Most races also will be covered on the Fox Sports family of networks as part of "America's Day at the Races." Here is the updated TV schedule for racing this week:

- Friday: 11:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Fox Sports 2 | 12:45-6:30 p.m., TVG
- Saturday: 12:45-6:30 p.m., TVG
- Sunday: 11:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., Fox Sports 2 | 4-6:30 p.m., Fox Sports 1

DOWN THE STRETCH – Friday's featured race was the \$750,000 Clark presented by Norton Healthcare (Grade I). First post was 1 p.m. The 12-race program had a \$195,484 carryover in the 20-cent Derby City 6 in Races 7-12. ... Churchill Downs will host **Hagyard Equine Medical Institute and Pharmacy** on Friday for a \$125,117 check presentation to **Thoroughbred Charities of America** in conjunction with the inaugural **"Race to Give,"** an online giving and awareness campaign designed to raise money for Thoroughbred aftercare programs and initiatives. The check presentation will take place in the Woodford Reserve Winner's Circle after Friday's third race at approximately 2:15 p.m. ... Saturday is "Stars of Tomorrow II" at Churchill Downs. The 12-race card showcases all 2-year-old races led by the \$400,000 Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) and \$400,000 Golden Rod (GII). Previews for the races can be found on www.ChurchillDowns.com/news. ... The track was listed as "muddy" for training Friday morning. Temperatures dropped into the mid-20s overnight in Louisville and track maintenance crews began working the track in the early morning hours for racing Friday. Training closed about one-hour early to give crews extra time to prepare the surface. ... Sunday is Closing Day of the Fall Meet and there will be mandatory payouts in all wagers. ... Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will be on-hand at Churchill Downs on Friday and Saturday. Friday schedule: Turf Club (12:30-2:30 p.m.), Finish Line Suites (2:50-3:45 p.m.) and Second Floor Clubhouse (3:55-5 p.m.). Saturday schedule: Jockey Club Suites (12:30-1:45 p.m.), Second Floor Clubhouse (2:10-4:45 p.m.).

ABOUT CHURCHILL DOWNS RACETRACK

Churchill Downs Racetrack ("CDRT"), the world's most legendary racetrack, has been the home of The Kentucky Derby, the longest continually held annual sporting event in the United States, since 1875. Located in Louisville, CDRT features a series of themed race days during Derby Week, including the Kentucky Oaks, and conducts Thoroughbred horse racing during three race meets in the Spring, September, and the Fall. CDRT is located on 175 acres and has a one-mile dirt track, a 7/8-mile turf track, a stabling area, and provides seating for approximately 60,000 guests. The saddling paddock and the stable area has barns sufficient to accommodate 1,400 horses and a 114-room dormitory for backstretch personnel. CDRT also has a year-round simulcast wagering facility. www.ChurchillDowns.com.